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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/524,333	02/11/2005	John Philip Griffiths	GRIJ0101 PUSA	6942
<div>61873 7590 10/31/2007</div> <div>JOHN PHILIP GRIFFITS</div> <div>99A TALLAI RD.</div> <div>TALLAI, 4213</div> <div>AUSTRALIA</div>				
<div>EXAMINER</div> <div>JIANG, YONG HANG</div>				
<div>ART UNIT</div> <div>PAPER NUMBER</div> <div>2612</div>				
<div>MAIL DATE</div> <div>DELIVERY MODE</div> <div>10/31/2007</div> <div>PAPER</div>				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/524,333

Applicant(s)

GRIFFITS ET AL.

Examiner

Yong Hang Jiang

Art Unit

2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 July 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 59-92 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 59-92 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicants' amendment filed on 7/28/2007 has been entered. Claims 1-58 are canceled. Claims 59-92 are still pending.

Specification

2. The amendment to the specification filed on 7/28/2007 is objected to; a detailed description for each of the figures in the drawings is required in the specification. The detailed description for each figure is required to describe each figure in detail. See the patents issued for proper detailed description of drawings. Appropriate correction is required.

3. The new set of claims added has new references for the elements in the invention such as "first and second key identifier" and "electrically operable indicator" which were not presented in the original specification filed on 2/11/2005. In order to comply with 35 U.S.C. 132(a), which states no new matter shall be introduced into the disclosure, applicants are required to use the original references for the elements of the invention.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 73 is objected to because of the following informalities: the citation "claims 72" should be --claim 72--. Appropriate correction is required.

5. Claims 78-81 are objected to because of the following informalities: the citation "said key" on line 3 of claim 78 should be --said portable device--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 79-81 depend on claim 78; therefore they suffer the same deficiency.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

6. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7. Claims 59-90 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claims 59-62, 65-67, 70-73, 76, 78, 80, 83 and 88-89 the use of the words "preferably", "preferable", and "preferentially" in these claims render the claims indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitation(s) following the words are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(d).

Claims 60-90 depend on claim 59; therefore they suffer the same deficiency.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation

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under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

10. Claim 59 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Pires et al. (US 6,431,438) and further in view of Trimble et al. (US 2002/0126010).

Regarding claim 59, Pires et al. disclose a storage system (1) to identify keys; the storage system (1) comprises: a light emitting diode (LED 18) for identifying keys; a keyboard (12) used for entering information to select the keys; an identification device (2) comprising a key holder (49); the key holder (49) comprises a memory device (53) arranged to store key identifiers related to an associated key, a microprocessor is arranged to process the information entered on the keyboard (12) to determine if the information entered is associated with a key identifier, and perform an operation required for activation of the LED (18) if the information is associated with a key identifier. (See Col. 2, lines 4-63; Col. 3, lines 51-67; and Col. 4, lines 1-42; and Col. 5, lines 23-32; and Figures 1-3, 9-13)

But Pires et al. fail to disclose the identification device comprises: an input to receive a signal associated with a lock; a computer comprising memory storage to store a plurality of key identifiers each related to an associated key; and a plurality of lock identifiers associated with the key identifiers.

Trimble et al. teach an object locating system employing radio frequency signaling. The system includes at least one control unit, which is used to activate at

least one electronic locator circuit to assist in locating an object to be located. The object to be located can be a key assembly. When activated the locator circuit produces an audible and/or visual indication for getting the attention of the user. (See the Abstract; Paragraphs 6-7, and 57; and Figures 1-3)

From the teachings of Trimble et al., it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Pires et al. to include the identification device comprising: an input to receive a signal associated with a lock; a computer comprising memory storage to store a plurality of key identifiers each related to an associated key; and plurality of lock identifiers associated with the key identifiers in order to provide a system to identify keys automatically when a user is searching for keys.

11. Claims 91-92 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by Blankenship et al. (US 6,609,402).

Regarding claim 91, Blankenship et al. disclose a personally portable electronic device (via electronic key 130) wherein part of the device comprises a detachable decorative enclosure (via upper case 132 and housing 134 forming an enclosure).

But Blankenship et al. fail to disclose an electrically operable mechanism is used to automate the detachment.

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the portable electronic device of Blankenship et al. to include an electrically operable mechanism to automate the detachment in order to make detachments easy for a user.

Regarding claim 92, Blankenship et al. disclose the portable electronic device comprises portable memory storage (via memory cell 142).

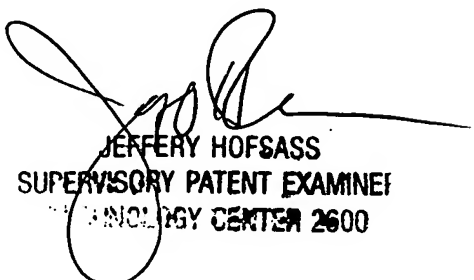
Conclusion

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yong Hang Jiang whose telephone number is 571-270-3024. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30 am to 5:30 pm alternate fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Hofsass can be reached on 571-272-2981. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

YHJ


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